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Security Information

IAC-D-52

23 June 1952

INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEEMONITORING OF WARNING-OF-ATTACK MESSAGES BY
THE WATCH COMMITTEE

The following has been received from the Joint Intelligence Committee and is circulated for consideration at the next IAC meeting:

"1. The Joint Intelligence Committee, in considering the implementation of NSC 116, has noted that there is no agency specifically designated to draft the NATO WARNING-OF-ATTACK messages. Since the Watch Committee of the Intelligence Advisory Committee will make the initial evaluation of information contained in the NATO WARNING-OF-ATTACK message, the Joint Intelligence Committee recommends that the Watch Committee be designated to draft the message. A procedure for accomplishing the above is proposed as follows:

"a. Watch Committee drafts recommended WARNING-OF-ATTACK message using enclosed form. (TAB A)

"b. Watch Committee submits recommended draft to the Intelligence Advisory Committee for approval and submission by the Director of Central Intelligence to the National Security Council. A copy will be simultaneously given to the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"c. When the message is approved by the National Security Council and The President, it is transmitted by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"2. In case actual hostilities have commenced or the Joint Chiefs of Staff consider hostilities so imminent that time is of vital importance, the Joint Chiefs of Staff are authorized (Reference NSC 116) to transmit such WARNING-OF-ATTACK messages without first securing the approval of the National Security Council, the National Security Council being so informed. However, in order to avoid any misunderstanding as to the responsible agency in any given situation,

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it is believed that the procedure outlined in paragraph 1 should be followed in all cases unless advice is received that the Joint Chiefs of Staff have sent a WARNING-OF-ATTACK message on their own authority.

"3. Advice is requested as to whether the Intelligence Advisory Committee concurs in the proposal outlined in paragraph 1 above. Upon receipt of advice that the Intelligence Advisory Committee has concurred with this proposal, the Joint Intelligence Committee will regard the procedure in effect, and will undertake the necessary action with the view toward bringing the Joint Chiefs of Staff Emergency Check List up to date."

[Redacted]

Acting Secretary

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